

1 **WAGANAKISING ODAWAK STATUTE**

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3 **TRIBAL CITIZENSHIP COMMISSION**

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6 **SECTION I. SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSE**

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8 **A. Short Title**

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10 This Statute shall be cited as the “Citizenship Commission Statute”

11
12 **B. Purpose**

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14 The purpose of the Tribal Citizenship Commission is to uphold the Little Traverse
15 Bay Bands Constitution and Enrollment Statute and to ensure an accurate, objective,
16 expedient, and fair enrollment process by reviewing applications and assisting the
17 Enrollment Office with difficult enrollment issues.

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20 **SECTION II. DEFINITIONS**

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22 **A.** “Commission” shall mean the Citizenship Commission.

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24 **B.** “Department” shall mean the Enrollment Department

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26 **C.** “LTBB” shall mean the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians

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29 **SECTION III. CREATION OF THE CITIZENSHIP COMMISSION**

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31 The Tribal Council hereby creates the Citizenship Commission and it shall be
32 composed of not more than five (5) Commissioners.

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35 **SECTION IV. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSIONERS**

36 Tribal Citizenship Commission – posted to legislative calendar

1 **A. Appointments of Commissioners.** Members of the Commission shall be Tribal
2 Citizens at least eighteen years of age appointed by the Tribal Council
3

4 **B. Term and compensation.** Members of the Commission shall be appointed to
5 serve for three (3) year terms. Members may be reappointed for additional terms without
6 limitation.
7

8 **C. Officers.**
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10 **1.** The Members shall appoint from among themselves one of the Members to
11 serve as Chairperson and another as Secretary and/or Treasurer for a two (2) year
12 term. There shall be no limit on the number of terms a Chairperson or Secretary
13 and/or Treasurer may serve.
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15 **2.** A Commission, Board or Committee Member shall not be the Chairperson
16 or chair a meeting if the department director, assistant director, co-director, Tribal
17 Chairperson, Tribal Vice-Chairperson, Legislative Leader or Tribal Chief Judge
18 is an immediate family member.
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20 **D. Compensation.** The Tribal Council may determine and authorize compensation
21 to be paid to members of the Commission based upon the Tribal Council's determination
22 of the time to be expended upon Commission duties and the qualifications of the
23 appointed Commissioners.
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25 **E. Oath of Office.** Upon appointment, The Tribal Court shall administer the
26 oath of office to the members of the Commission which oath of office shall include a
27 commitment to uphold the Constitution and laws of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of
28 Odawa Indians and to perform faithfully and diligently the duties and responsibilities set
29 forth in this Statute.
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31 **F. Vacancies.** In the event a vacancy occurs in the Commission, by virtue of
32 death, resignation or removal, the Tribal Council shall appoint a qualified Tribal Citizen
33 to fill the remaining term of office.
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35 **G. Removal.** Members may be removed in accordance with applicable laws.

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2 **H. Ethics.** Commissioners shall follow Rules of Conduct for Tribal Officials or any
3 other approved ethical standards.
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6 **SECTION V. DUTIES AND AUTHORITY OF THE CITIZENSHIP**
7 **COMMISSION**
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9 **A.** The Commission shall have the following duties and authority:
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11 **1.** To review enrollment applications.
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13 **2.** To assist the Enrollment Officer upon request with files that require a
14 blood quantum change provided that additional documents have been received
15 from one of the following: Bureau of Indian Affairs, LTBB Department or
16 Applicant, Tribal Citizen.
17

18 **3.** To consider other documentation that may prove descendent eligibility.
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20 **4.** To approve and sign applications provided that file has been reviewed and
21 that the information contained in the file is correct.
22

23 **5.** To submit approved files with at least two Commissioner's signatures to
24 Tribal Council.
25

26 **6.** Formal action by the Commission shall be required for blood quantum
27 changes.
28

29 **7.** Make recommendation to the Tribal Council for any disenrollment.
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32 **SECTION VI. MEETINGS AND EMERGENCY MEETINGS**
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34 **A.** Regular scheduled meetings shall be held to conduct business and to review
35 applications.

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2 **B.** An emergency meeting shall be held only for matters involving applications that
3 require immediate review due to health issues or child welfare issues.
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5 **C.** Commissions shall adopt rules of procedures for the conduct of their business
6 subject to the approval of the Tribal Chairperson unless such rules are contained within
7 the statute or resolution that created the commission.
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10 **SECTION VII. PHONE POLLS**

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12 The Citizenship Commission shall be in compliance with WOS 2006-007
13 Commission, Boards and Committees Statute. The Commission Secretary or designee
14 may authorize in writing the Enrollment Officer to conduct a phone poll.
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17 **SECTION VIII. SEVERABILITY**

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19 If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, phrase or portion of this Statute is,
20 for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction,
21 such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such
22 holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.
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25 **SECTION IX. EFFECTIVE DATE**

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27 Effective upon signature of the Executive or 30 days from Tribal Council
28 approval whichever comes first or if the Executive vetoes the legislation, then upon
29 Tribal Council override of the veto.
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CERTIFICATION